

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

**Please replace the second paragraph (the first full paragraph) on page 7 with the following amended paragraph:**

A raw material introduction path 6 is connected to an intermediate part of the agitation vessel 1. A slurry extraction tube 7 is provided at the side wall 1b of the agitation vessel 1, preferably in such a state that the slurry extraction tube 7 protrudes from the side-wall ~~4~~ 1b of the agitation vessel in a direction toward the interior of the agitation vessel. The slurry is extracted through a decompression valve 8 depending on necessity.